

To: ISA Board and Advisory Board Members and Member Associations

From: Michael Sugarman, Chair ISA

Date: September 1, 2010

Re: September e newsflash

International Stuttering Awareness Day

Imagine trying to order a hamburger while stumbling and hesitating over the first syllable. The waiter is waiting. Finally you give up and order a cheeseburger--- only because it's easier to say. For millions of people who stutter this is a shared experience -One of the many that can lead to a sense of futility and retreat from social activity.

Fifteen years ago, the National Stuttering Association (USA) received a letter from 12- year- old girl telling us she asked her doctor why she stuttered. "We forgot to cut the string under your tongue," was his response.

The history of stuttering, as well as its causes and treatment, is worth examining because it tells us of long standing misconceptions to understand stuttering.

The Greek philosopher Demosthenes overcame his stuttering affliction by placing pebbles in his mouth.

Sir Frances Bacon thought stuttering could be cured by applying hot wine to the tongue.

In the first half of the 19th century, a Viennese doctor was convinced that the tongue of a person who stutters was too large. The doctor solved the problem by cutting away the excess with surgical tools. Later, razor sharp horse bits were inserted into the mouth and by 20th century, the person who stuttered became fair game for stuttering schools, monotone voice patterns, arm swinging and singing were purported 'cures'.

We have heard within the last 6 years of an African witchdoctor who helped a mother with a stuttering child. The child was diagnosed as being 'possessed by demons' and was killed.

The professional and consumer stuttering community are working together to increase awareness and focus attention on stuttering in an appropriate manner.

International Stuttering Awareness Day is an opportunity to change public attitudes and beliefs about stuttering, as well change personal perceptions that as People who Stutter we may have adopted. Please join a world wide effort by going to www.stutteringhomepage.com during the ISAD on line conference and exchange your ideas with others.

I want to invite you to participate in the 9th World Congress of Stuttering and Meeting of People Who Stutter and 2nd Ibero-Latin American Stuttering Congress on 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st of May, 2011 in Argentina

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I personally invite you to attend and to if possible to participate in the Congress. If you wish to present a workshop, please send an abstract of 500 words or less, in English, by no later than November 30, 2010, to:
comitecientifico@citargentina2011.com.ar

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You can learn more about the upcoming Congress by going to:
www.citargentina2011.com.ar Or for more information you can contact
Lic. Claudia Lucia Diaz. Congress Chairperson at
claudiadiaz@citargentina2011.com.ar

Solicitation for Member Associations host WC 2013 and Prospective ISA Board Members

Tuesday, May 17th the International Stuttering Association will host its annual membership meeting. We have received inquiries from members associations such as The Netherlands and Austria and expect that these associations will make proposals to host 2013 World Congress, or want more information so that they can think about it, please contact me at msugarman1@sbcglobal.net

Member Associations should also consider if they want to be represented on the ISA Board of Directors by one of their members. They should encourage candidates who wish to represent them to write to me before the end of January 2011 and I will request additional information from candidates in advance of the meeting date. Also, those considering this opportunity and responsibility may desire more information from the ISA. We will provide more information in the e newsflash a month from now. However, if you want to know something before then, please contact me at the above screen name.

Motion # 46

In 2007 Benny Ravid held an election to appoint a Board of Directors Coordinator. This position is not in the ISA Constitution. Motion # 46 proposed to eliminate this Board Coordinator position.

Motion # 46 was passed by a majority vote. The position of Board of Directors Coordinator has been eliminated.

Thank you

Dear ISA members around the world,

Thank you for sending pictures of famous People who Stutter and members of your associations. The video/slide show entitled: **People who Stutter Inspire!** is almost completed and will be posted on the ISAD online conference. While, I could not use every picture, lots were included, and all were inspiring.

Warmly,

Michael, Chair